

## A-BOMB CAN DO THIS TO BRITAIN

### EDITORIAL

#### Ban this horror

If ever justification was needed for the petition to ban the atom bomb, organised by the British Peace Committee, it is provided by the publication today of the Civil Defence Handbook on Atomic Warfare.

In the House of Commons on Monday, both the Government and the Tories tried to minimise the effect of this monstrous weapon. Today, the Government's own handbook shows this debate to have been a cruel deception.

If one atom bomb of the character dropped in Japan was to fall on a British city:

Fifty thousand people would lose their lives, a figure almost equal to the total deaths resulting from all the air raids on Britain during the Second World War.

Four hundred thousand persons would be rendered temporarily homeless. Half this number could be rehoused at lesser repairs. Of the remaining 200,000, after excluding the dead and those requiring extended hospital treatment, new houses would have to be found for 100,000.

The booklet, while dealing in general terms with the horrible effects of radiation, omits all details. But an earlier official account reported that pregnant women who survived, up to 1½ miles from the centre of the explosion, had miscarriages or premature infants who died very soon. A later American report speaks of people in Hiroshima now, five years after, going blind as a result of the bomb.

And what is the answer of the Labour Government in face of this horror in store for the British people in an atomic war? To try to console them that dispersal and Anderson and trench shelters can give protection.

They deliberately distort the facts. The bombs in Japan were exploded 2,000 feet up in the air. If an atom bomb was exploded at ground level, a shelter would have to be 300 to 400 feet below ground to give protection.

Has the Government any intention of providing such protection? No! It is pursuing a policy which will result in atom war, knowing that Britain must suffer worse than any other country.

The American aggressor in Korea is bent on world war. The American Government is opposing the abolition of the atom bomb, which it considers essential for the mass annihilation of civil populations to achieve its aims of world conquest.

That is why it rejects repeated Soviet efforts to reach agreement to outlaw this foul weapon. And the Labour Government supports America, despite the appalling risk this suicidal course means for Britain.

There is not a moment to lose. It is within your power to force the Government to ban the atom bomb. Sign the British Peace Committee Petition now. Get everyone else to sign it.

World peace is your real protection. Demand that the Government support the Stalin-Nehru proposals for peace in Korea.

End this horror which hangs over humanity, now!

#### Pensions

CONSIDER carefully the reasons why the Royal Air Force is offering skilled workers pensions ranging up to £5 a week after 22 years' service.

Because of "the unsettled world situation" a very large Air Force is required and skilled men are asked to make the service a life career.

Turn to that vital service, coal mining. Workers underground and on the surface at pits get no pensions. They have demanded them with vigour, but in vain.

Cost is the main argument advanced against their claim. Why, says the Coal Board, to pay a pension of, say, £2 a week might cost as much as £20 million.

So the worker who pumps the life-blood into British industry may toil until ill-health or old age forces him to fall out and take the old age pensioner's rate of 26s. a week.

Let him, however, enlist as a skilled man in the service of war and he may be guaranteed £5 a week at 55 years.

After this, the miners' claim must be met without further delay.

### Booklet on 'Defence' tells of death and devastation

A GRIM but factual estimate of the deaths and devastation which atom bombs would cause in British cities was published by the Home Office last night.

It is part of the Civil Defence Manual of Basic Training and is based on the known effects of the bombs used at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Although the booklet, which includes 23 photographs of these Japanese cities, leaves an indelible impression of horror, its authors still try to persuade the British public that an atomic war might not be quite so bad after all.

All the calculations are based on the effect that one bomb would create.

And according to Dr. E. H. S. Burhop, who is chairman of the Atomic Scientists' Committee of the Association of Scientific Workers, the Manual has seriously underestimated the effects of atomic bombardments in other respects. He emphasises that:

All calculations in the manual are based on the old-fashioned type of bomb used in Japan, not on the more deadly types now being made in the United States.

#### Little about shelters

The Manual assumes that the bombs will explode in mid-air, and does not deal adequately with the serious effects of bombs exploding on the ground.

It admits the possibility of appalling fire-storms, but is extremely vague about the "mitigating measures" which it hopefully mentions.

It contains no recommendations of any kind about shelters to protect people from atomic weapons, although reporting that in Japan earth shelters gave good protection.

## WHAT THEY'VE LEFT OUT

By Dr. E. H. S. Burhop

ONE of the most lethal and insidious effects of the bomb, the effect of radiation, is seriously minimised in the Civil Defence Manual.

As an objective statement of the effect of atomic explosions, the manual is a useful document. Certain aspects, however, are either written down or left vague. In view of the fact that the explosions at Hiroshima and Nagasaki occurred at some distance above the ground, it is natural that the manual should deal most with the effects of such explosions.

Data about the effects to be expected from an explosion at ground level or under water are vague, although the possibilities are not ignored.

No allowance is made for possible "improvements" in the atom bomb since 1945, although it has been claimed often that modern atom bombs are several times more powerful than those of the Hiroshima type.

If an atom bomb explodes some thousands of feet above the ground, as at Hiroshima, the effect of blast is greatest.

Under these conditions from a single Hiroshima-type bomb on a British city, if there are no suitable shelters, or

continued on p. 4

### But this is what the Manual admits

Daily Worker Reporter

"If the people in our cities were caught, as were the Japanese, without warning, before any evacuation had taken place, and with no suitable shelters, the casualties caused by a high-air-burst bomb would be formidable," says the Civil Defence Manual of Basic Training, published yesterday.

"The British mission to Japan estimated that under these circumstances as many as 50,000 people might lose their lives in a typical British city with a population density of 45 persons to the acre."

The pamphlet goes on to claim that with suitable shelters and prompt precautions the casualties could be reduced to a fraction of those suffered in Japan (although it is assumed only one bomb would be dropped).

The British mission estimated that from a high air burst bomb such as was used in Japan, the manual says, an ordinary British city with 15 houses and 45 persons to the acre would suffer damage to dwelling houses to a distance of two to two and a half miles from ground zero on the following scale:

Demolished or requiring demolition: One mile (30,000 houses). Uninhabitable and requiring major repairs: One to one and a half miles (35,000 houses).

#### 400,000 homeless

Temporarily uninhabitable, but requiring only minor repairs: One and a half miles—two to two and a half miles (50,000-100,000 houses). "This damage would affect the dwellings of 400,000 people, and even allowing for those who might be casualties and those who could return after minor repairs to their houses had been completed, or who did not have to leave their houses at all, some 100,000 persons would need rehousing, creating a very big civil defence problem."

The effects of the high-air-burst bomb on public utility services would be confined to damage above ground. Overground installations, trams, buses and motor cars, would be damaged more or less severely up to one mile or so from ground zero.

Remarkable instruments known as radiation meters, which provide means of detecting the presence of radioactivity, are described in the manual.

Heat flash is stated to be capable of continuing on p. 4

### FOUR 'NAPS' IN A ROW

Titian, 9-4 winner of the 2.30 race at Goodwood yesterday, was Carlton's 35th winner of the flat racing season and the Daily Worker racing expert's fourth winning nap in succession. The others were Belinda Fair, 6-1 on Friday; Lingering, 3-1 on Saturday; and Silver Crest, 11-10 on Monday.

### Who'll join the first 100,000?

Daily Worker Reporter

THE British Peace Committee has lost no time in taking steps to achieve their target of 5 million signatures to the Peace Petition by October.

They are appealing for 100,000 "volunteers" for peace—the shock-troops of the petition campaign, who will devote every possible moment to the collection of signatures.

With 100,000 collectors it should be possible to sweep the entire country. "When the campaign closes," said Mrs. Joyce Smith, the committee's secretary, yesterday, "we don't want a single person in the country to be able to say: 'But nobody asked me. I hadn't the chance to sign against the atom bomb.'"

#### New forms

The fourth print of 250,000 petition forms will soon be off the Press. Earlier prints have been green, blue and maroon; latest is in royal blue.

Peace Committee officials are still appealing for collectors not to hoard completed forms until they have a nice round number of signatures.

They point out that many centres still have far more signatures collected than have actually been received by the Committee at its 1a Park Crescent, London, W.1 offices.

### A CALL FROM CANADA

"DON'T let the Daily Worker down and happiness." That appeal to get busy with our share drive comes to you from Leslie Morris, editor of the Canadian Weekly—once Daily Tribune.

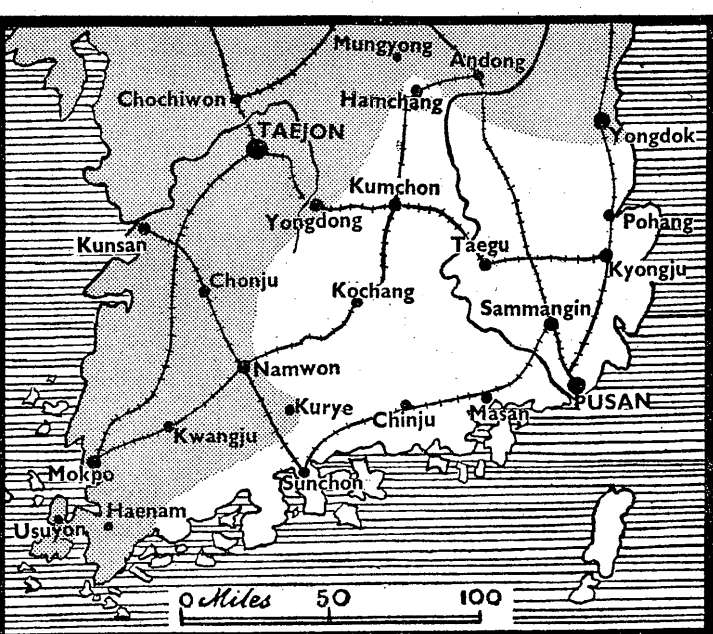
"We Canadians yearn for the time when we shall again have a fighting daily paper. Don't suffer that yearning in Britain," he writes.

There is a form on Page 3. For Daily Worker share club information, write to Pat Devine, 75, Farringdon Road, London, E.C.1.

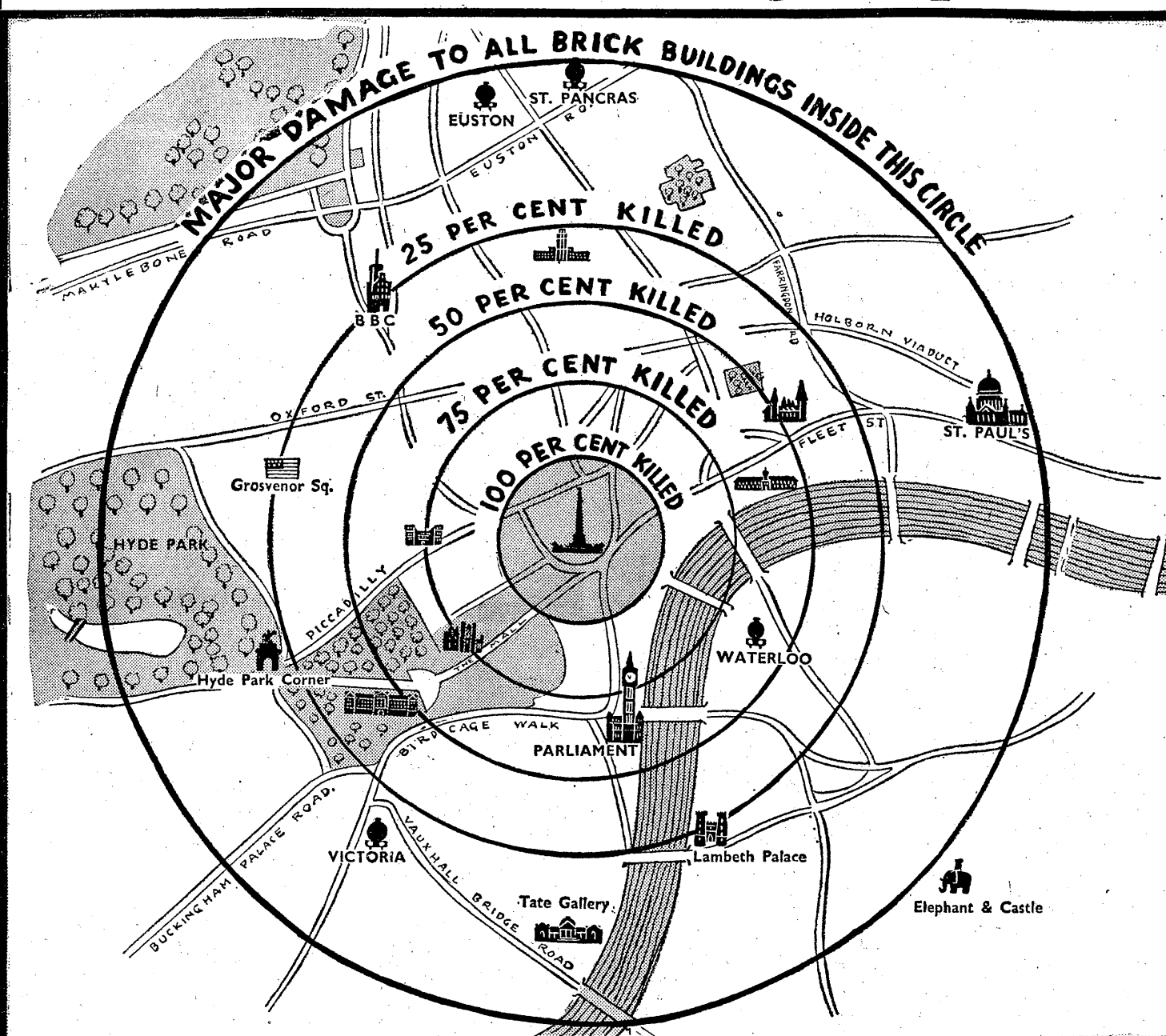
### Stole bicycle to meet sergeant

A 24-YEAR-OLD police constable, Ronald Milburn Anderson, of Watson Street, Derby, who stole a bicycle while he was on night patrol duty, was fined £20 by Derby magistrates yesterday.

Mr. N. S. Fisher, prosecuting, said that the owner of the bicycle reported the theft to Anderson. Anderson had made a statement saying that he had taken the bicycle in order to reach his "conference" point, where he was to meet his sergeant.



### If one dropped on Trafalgar Square..



This map shows the destruction that would be caused if one atom bomb, similar to that dropped on Hiroshima, was dropped on Trafalgar Square.

The circles indicate the percentage of people who would be killed at various distances from the centre. All brick buildings inside the outer circle would be heavily damaged.

But since Hiroshima the atom bomb has been developed and, of course, there are now threats of producing the hydrogen bomb.

## Koreans liberate 3 key towns

AMERICAN positions in Korea yesterday crumbled even more dramatically than in the past few days before the determined onslaught of the Korean People's Army.

After U.S. Field Headquarters had admitted the fall of Yongdong, announced by the People's Army during the night, General MacArthur's headquarters had to admit the loss of the towns of Haenam and Kurye.

Haenam is in the toe of the peninsula only a few miles from the sea and 20 miles south-east of Mokpo, South Korean naval base, liberated by the People's Army the day before yesterday.

Kurye is 20 miles north of Suncheon, and all reports from the front indicate that the troops of the People's Army are sweeping down to the south-west coast of Korea almost unopposed.

North Korean Commander-in-Chief Kim Il Sen, in an order of the day broadcast by Peking Radio last night, said that the People's Army had wiped out the United States 24th Division in the battle for Taejon on July 20.

The North Korean Army took several hundred prisoners and vast quantities of supplies, he said.

#### FINAL DEFENCE

The People's Army communique which announced the liberation of Kwangju, Okchon and Yongdong, disclosed that in the Yongdong Okchon battle 470 lorries were captured, 27 armoured cars, nine tanks, three 37 m.m. guns, eight 60 m.m. guns, 65, 60 m.m. mortars, 52 heavy machine guns and other equipment and guns.

A later People's Army communique announced that units advancing from Kwangju smashed enemy resistance and completely liberated Mokpo, the last important town and port on the west coast.

Other units liberated Namwon and continued their offensive southwards.

There was more American H.Q. talk yesterday of a retreat to another "final defence line" along the triangle formed by the towns of Pohang, Taegu and Pusan.

### No change yet likely on call-up

From PETER ZINKIN

OPINION in the Cabinet hardened at their meeting yesterday against an immediate lengthening of the conscription period for National Service men.

Mr. Shinwell may tell M.P.s when he opens for the Government in today's defence debate that the matter is still under consideration.

He will also make it quite clear that the Government intends to press ahead with war preparations. There is not the slightest reluctance about taking men and women into the forces, it is merely a matter of timing.

#### SECRET SESSION?

The Tories last night told the Government that they wanted to continue the defence debate tomorrow.

If it is agreed they will move that the second-day debate be held in secret session.

Even if the secret session is refused, the Tories calculate they will have achieved their object of creating a dramatic situation which can be used to raise the pressure for even bigger and more expensive armaments.

The Government are expected to make a statement today about the U.S. demand for British soldiers to help them in Korea.

It is believed that they have now agreed to send a token force if they can be got there before the Americans are driven out.

#### DISTORTION

Mr. Harry Pollitt informs us that the alleged report published in the Daily Herald on Tuesday, June 25, of his speech in Berlin is a complete distortion.

He intends to issue a fuller statement on the matter tomorrow.

#### Home Guard plan

Mr. Strachey, Secretary for War, in a written reply yesterday, said that the question of raising a Home Guard to meet an emergency, and the procedure for raising it, had been under consideration.

### Holiday gifts

REMEMBER seeing me, depicted by Gabriel, with a Magic Money Box, happy on account of a kind reader's offer of £50 to help us in holiday month if 50 £1's were collected?

Good friends took note, and already we've got £18 of that £50.

"The miners had the holiday feeling and made it up to £1," say Cockburn's, Cardonald. "Ten pounds in a lump to make sure of your £50," writes an Oxford woman reader.

A Merchant Navy boy came in my office, shook my hand warmly, and left a much-folded, cracking £5 note in a lump to make sure of your £50," writes an Oxford woman reader.

"A pound," says the Vale of Leven Communist, "our holiday gift!" I've asked our £50 friend if the £1's MUST be collected in these nice little boxes, and I hasten to report she says NO, any £1 is good enough for her and the Daily Worker.

Hurry in your £1's then, box or no box. We'll need 'em all. Yesterday's post brought £113 6s. 9d.

WE WANT

£2,340

BARBARA NIVEN.

Send donations to Barbara Niven, People's Press Fighting Fund, Daily Worker, William Rust House, 75, Farringdon Road, London, E.C.1.

### She hid watches for a sailor

ALLEGED to have hidden over 200 watches in a gas cooker at his home, Usher Schapira, 53, fur dealer, of Darenth Road, Stamford Hill, N., was at London Sessions yesterday found Not Guilty of harbouring uncustomed goods.

Mr. J. S. Streeter, prosecuting, said that when Customs officers searched Schapira's house they also found 37 watches in a vegetable dish in the kitchen cupboard.

Schapira's 17-year-old daughter, Hannah, in evidence said that she hid the watches in the kitchen on behalf of a Latvian sailor named Augustus, with whom she was friendly. He had told her that he had connections in Hatton Garden.

### LATEST NEWS

Daily Worker: HOLborn 9242

### SOLDIERS FOR ANOTHER YEAR

The U.S. House of Representatives yesterday sent for the President's signature a Bill which would extend for one year the military duty of nearly 300,000 men whose enlistments expire in the next 12 months.

WEATHER: Fair, sunny periods. Lighting-up time: 9.59 p.m.

### These 'poor' landlords

Daily Worker Reporter

TENANTS in Birmingham and the Midlands are strongly opposed to the proposed 50 per cent increases in rents charged by private landlords for "repairs."

In an outspoken statement, the Birmingham and Midland District Tenants' and Residents' Association say they see no reason why present tenants of old property should have to pay for repairs made necessary by the landlords' neglect.

"If landlords today are finding that current investment in property does not show an adequate profit to their liking, they must solve their own difficulties, and not pass their losses (if any) on to the tenants," says the association.

People were finding that the cost of living was high enough and they would resist any further increases. The association also protests at the action of Mr. Bevan in receiving a deputation from the landlords without receiving one from the tenants.

## America's Puppets in Asia

Who are they? Who put them there? Whom do they represent, these quislings of the Far East...? For the amazing exposure of the whole set-up you must read the latest issue of the COMMENTARY ON CURRENT AFFAIRS issued by the Daily Worker.

Send 3d. for sample to 75, Farringdon Road, London, E.C.1.